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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

MASON et al.

Serial No.09/230,955

Filed: February 04, 1999

Examiner: Brumback, B.

Group Art Unit: 1642

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence, including listed enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in a package addressed to: Box AF, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

Dated: March 13, 2002

Signed: Lisa Jeanetta
Lisa Jeanetta

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SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In satisfaction of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants wish to draw the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the references cited on the accompanying form PTO-1449.

None of the foregoing references is believed to disclose the invention as claimed. Nothing herein shall constitute an admission concerning the contents of any of the cited references, nor shall the inclusion of a reference herein be considered an admission that the reference constitutes

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prior art against the invention claimed in the above-identified application. Submission of the present document shall not be construed as an admission that a search has been made or that better art does not exist.

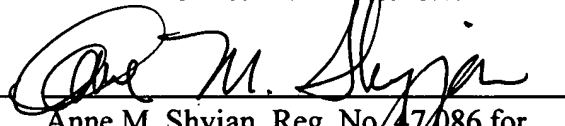
Per 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(3)(ii), item 4 listed on the enclosed PTO form 1449 is a complete translation of an article previously submitted as an English language abstract with an Information Disclosure Statement dated June 28, 1999.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(2), the undersigned certifies that items 1-4 listed on the enclosed PTO form 1449 were not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the instant information disclosure statement. The required fee under C.F.R. 1.17 (p) is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1300 (Our Order no. A-67653/RFT/AMS).

Respectfully submitted,

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